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Christina shouted. “Is that how you take care of a sick parent? He treats you so well, and this is how you treat him in return? You know he has heart disease and cannot be stimulated. How could you leave him alone for so long?”

Sarah still stared at Christina in disbelief and tried to explain herself. “I just went to buy some food for him... He wanted to eat soup for lunch, so I went to buy it for him...”

But Christina wasn’t satisfied with that answer and responded in a sharp tone, “Did you just buy some food for him? Or did you go out misbehaving?”

Charles tried to intervene and said to Christina. “Mom, calm down and talk to her more privately. Why would you slap her?”

Unwilling to listen to Charles, Christina responded with a cold tone, “You are so stupid and naïve! You know nothing about her! She was out with another man! Why are you still defending her? You are such a big fool!”

Christina was so angry, Sarah had never seen her like this before.

Charles was shocked and stared at Christina in disbelief. “Mom, what did you just say?”

Christina pointed at Sarah, “Ask her, did she go to buy some food, or did she go to meet her lover? She thought that no one knew about it. She ignored your dad to go out with her lover, and now your dad is in the operating room. No matter what you say, she is responsible for what is happening. Stop defending her!”

Sarah’s hand went slowly down. She stared at Christina in shock. “Did you hire a spy to report my every move to you?”

Christina sneered back. “Hum! There’s no need to spy on you. I have many acquaintances in this city, and you are Charles’s wife. Everyone who knows our company knows you. Do you think that no one will know what you are doing? Stop bringing shame to our family!”

“Then can you tell me what I was doing outside?” Sarah understood that Christina was not going to stop so quickly. It was clear that she had hired someone to spy on

her, even on the most ordinary things in her life. That also explained why she had those photos of her.

This time, she had gone out with Daniel, so Christina had a new excuse to put on her. After everything that just had happened, Sarah felt there was no need to be polite to Christina anymore. Emma was standing beside her mom and started to smile as if she was enjoying the dramatic play in front of her. Emma hadn't expected that today of all days, she would witness a confrontation between Christina and Sarah but knew that she could benefit from this situation, she had no intention to stop them.

Christina continued to yell at Sarah. "Don't you see what you have done? Or are you pretending to be innocent? Do you need me to show you the pictures?"

Hearing this, Sarah was bitterly disappointed and shook her head, still staring at Christina. "Up until now, I used to respect you because you are Charles's mom, I respected you no matter how you deliberately made everything difficult for me. But why are you starting a rumor against me now? What on earth have I done to make you dislike me so much?"

"Do I need to start a rumor? You did something shameful and were caught, and now you want to blame me?"

Trying to stop them, Charles stepped between them and asked. "What on earth happened? Mom, if you have evidence, can you show it to me? If not, why do you keep bothering Sarah?"

"Evidence?" Christina yelled at Charles. "There's your evidence, her lover is coming here right now, and you will see for yourself!"

Coincidentally, at that moment, Daniel came running toward them and shouted. "Sarah, Sarah!"

Sarah was shocked to hear Daniel's voice. She looked up and noticed that Daniel had changed back into his work clothes. He was now wearing a shirt with a tie underneath his white lab coat. The tie... that tie... was the one Sarah had given him just now. Realizing this, Sarah knew what Christina was referring to and felt lost.

Daniel was breathing heavily from running up the stairs and said. "I just arrived home but then was called back in because your father-in-law had an emergency. Don't worry; we'll do our best to save him!"

Everyone was looking at them, Sarah didn't know what to say. Not being able to answer or explain anything at the moment, she just lowered her head and said. "Thank you!"

Daniel noticed that Sarah was in a lousy mood and upset, but didn't pay much attention, thinking that she was worried about Mr. Thomas. He looked at Mrs. Thomas to say hello and went into the operating room.

Charles also recognized the tie Daniel was wearing. He had never expected that Sarah would buy a gift for another man. He was her husband. But why did she give a tie to Daniel? What was their relationship?

Christina jumped at the opportunity to add fuel to the flame. "Do you see? My son, the tie Dr. Daniel, is wearing exactly the style you like. And the first person he called wasn't me, or you, but your wife. Do you still have doubts?"

Charles looked at Sarah sternly as if he was trying to read her mind.

Sarah also looked back at him. She couldn't explain herself right now, given that Christina had photos of them. She couldn't deny that she had given the tie to Daniel either. All she could do at this moment was to hope that he would trust her and that he loved her enough to ignore what everyone else was saying about her.

To Sarah's disappointment, Charles suddenly said in a cold voice. "I saw that tie before and thought you bought it for me but gave it to Daniel instead? I just want to know, what do you take me for? We have been married for quite some time now, and you never gave me presents except for one shirt. So why are you giving a tie to another man?"

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Sarah realized that Charles didn't trust her. She didn't know why it hurt so much, she felt like her world was collapsing in front of her. Charles continued to believe and defend others over her. Sarah realized that Charles would never completely trust her like he trusted Emma, he would always be suspicious of her.

But why was he blindly trusting the others over her? That was the difference between Emma and her. Emma had his trust, whereas Sarah didn't.

Christina interfered. “There’s no need to ask. What if she fell in love with somebody else, and you are the only one who doesn’t know about it?”

Sarah didn’t respond to Christina but just stared at Charles. After a few seconds, she asked. “Do you believe that? Charles, I just want to know what you think.” She stared at him, continued as if she wasn’t going to stop until she got an answer from him.

Looking at her expression, Charles started to doubt, but he still answered with a harsh and cold expression, “I just want to ask you, why did you give Daniel a gift instead of me?” He still questioned her, avoiding answering her directly.

Sarah looked at him, her heart filled with disappointment. She was so tired from the last few days, and all she wanted was to escape from reality, but somehow just had to keep facing reality in its face with all its troubles.

In the past, Charles’s support had given her some warmth, but now, even he doubted her, so she didn’t know why she was still staying. Sometimes, she really felt like talking it through with them and telling them all her anger and injustice into their face and then leaving. Maybe, leaving was true to her! She had gone through many difficult things in her life and never relied on anyone. So why should she tolerate them now?

However, Mr. Thomas was very sick and still in the operating room. She knew he expected them to get along with each other, how could she argue with them outside the operating room where he was fighting for his life? If she only considered herself right now, Mr. Thomas could get mad or upset again, and he wasn’t strong enough for that.

Thinking of how good Mr. Thomas had always treated her, she couldn’t let him down right now. She squeezed her fists tightly to suppress her anger and said with a cold voice. “Your dad is in the operating room now; can we talk about it later?”

However, Christina wasn’t ready to let go. “Are you trying to find an excuse? You can’t find a good reason, so you’re looking for an excuse.”

Emma, who was still standing beside her mom, added, “Mom, Sarah wouldn’t do something like that. She really cares about dad, or else she wouldn’t have gone out with Daniel to buy food for him!”

Her words sounded very natural, but Sarah heard them very eccentric because Christina was precisely blaming her husband's condition on her going out and neglecting Me. Thomas.

When Charles heard Emma's reasoning, he became even angrier.

Christina continued to add fuel to the fire. "Was she going out to buy food? Everyone knows what she really did!"

Sarah couldn't stand them any longer, especially Christina and Emma, who had been nothing but trouble for a long time. She thought that she could bear it for Charles and that after getting to know her, they would finally start treating her better. However, instead of starting to treat her better, Charles was not also let her down.

Sarah suddenly turned toward Christina and said with a cold yet determined voice. "Mrs. Thomas and Emma. Do you two really find it so interesting to create problems for me? Aren't you looking down on my family? Christina, you purposely made Emma chase after my husband, haven't you? Emma, you want to marry Charles so badly, then why not tell him directly? Is it so much fun to play games and create drama around everything? You both are supposedly elegant ladies; don't you think you're degrading yourself?"

It had never occurred to Christina that Sarah would confront them like that. After staring at Sarah in shock for a second, she yelled. "What? How can you speak to me like that? Don't you know how to respect your elders?"

Sarah sneered back. "No, I don't know, but that has nothing to do with my family. I have been on my own from a young age, and there is no need to bring my family into this anymore. Besides, you always say that I'm from such an ordinary family, what's wrong with my family background? You are of high social status, and you believe yourself so high above me, are your deeds worthy of your status?"

Sarah was speaking in a loud voice as if she was throwing the handle at the blade, shocking both Charles and Emma.

As expected, Christina was not one to back down and fire back. Pointing at Sarah, she said to Charles, "You see how she talks to me? Is this her way of respecting me? This is your beloved wife!"

Charles also was amazed at Sarah's reaction and tried to stop her. "Sarah, you are crossing a line, she is my mother!" His voice was filled with reproach.

Hearing Charles's words, Sarah was even more disappointed. In the past, when Christina had been mean to her, Charles always had been on her side, but today he just let her be. Maybe he didn't love her after all and decided to take his mother's side to scold her in front of everyone.

Frustrated, Sarah responded. "Charles, what right do you have to scold me? What makes you think that you can discipline me?" Then she turned to Christina and Emma and continued. "I respected you before because you are my mother-in-law, but have you been a good example? Now that you openly turned against me, I don't need to respect you anymore. And Emma, you are so ridiculous; I thought you were innocent and kind and I treated you well, I tried to help you. But you turned out to be an evil and scheming woman!"

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Christina pretended to be agitated by her words and said. "Alas, I can't stand her! Charles, how can you stand? She is your wife, why is she behaving so superior to us?"

Charles also thought that Sarah was overreacting and said, "Sarah!" as if he was ordering her to calm down and stretched his hand out to her to pull her back.

Sarah shook off his hands and freed herself from his attempt to restrain her. "I don't need you to tell me what to do. What rights do you have to tell me what to do? Even though you are my husband, I am still a free person! You have no right to restrain me!"

Sarah was so irritated but didn't want to show her weakness in front of everyone, especially after Charles was taking his mother's side.

Charles suddenly pushed her. "Come here and talk with me!" He growled as he pulled her over. Sarah struggled to get free, but Charles got even more irritated and pushed her full force against the wall. He didn't mean to hurt her, but he momentarily lost control over his emotions and disregarded his strength.

Sarah's back hit against the wall so intense that she arched in pain. Unable to stand the pain, she closed her eyes and scrunched her face, feeling as if her body was smashed into pieces.

Both Christina and Emma were shocked at what they saw as they hadn't expected Charles to get physical with Sarah. They both felt happy to see Sarah's painful expression and smiled secretively.

Meanwhile, Charles realized that he had hurt Sarah, and quickly went to hold Sarah steady and said, "Sarah, Sarah..."

Sarah pushed him off and stood up straight by herself, disregarding the pain. Charles was about to say something, but Sarah slapped him on the face and glared at him. Her eyes were filled with disappointment and despair, shocking Charles. Charles stared back at her without knowing what to do.

Sarah gnashed her teeth in anger. "I will not let you bully me! Charles, you owe me big time! I'll remember what you just did. If you don't stop, I will get my revenge one day!"

She pushed Charles away and strode away. She had to leave this cage that was suffocating her. She just wanted to have her own life, without caring about anyone or being dependent on someone!

Sarah walked alone along the bridge. Cars were coming and going as well as pedestrians walking in different directions, but she was indifferent and looked at the deep emptiness in front of her, strolling away from the hospital as if she was walking into another world.

The wind became stronger and colder. She hugged herself, trying to protect herself from the cold. She had no intention to go back, just kept on walking further away, not knowing where she would end up.

After a while, it started to rain. Although it was a very slight rain, it was enough to get wet. All pedestrians began to find shelter either with an umbrella or by leaving, and soon the bridge was empty, except for Sarah, who was standing on the rail and looking into the river underneath the bridge.

Boats were coming and going on the river, with tourists enjoying the beautiful scenery from the water. Some young people dressed in sportswear who were not scared off by the rain kept surfing on the water with vigorous strides. Everyone had

their own, seemingly normal life, except for her, who felt like she had no expectation left in life.

Christina's purpose was apparent. She wanted to get rid of her by any means. After what had happened at the hospital today, Sarah could not go back—thinking about what had happened and how Charles had behaved made her very sad. He had pushed her so hard against the wall in front of Emma and Christina, humiliating her and treating her like an outsider. Didn't he feel at least a little sorry for her? Why had he treated her so tender before? They had only been married for a few months, why had he changed so dramatically?

Sarah recalled what Lee had told her a while back. Lee said to her that Charles was a playboy who had been with many women and that he quickly got tired of them. She had also said to her that Sarah was not the right woman for him. Was Charles already tired of her after such a short time?

Although she had made the decision to leave, once outside, she had started to feel very sad. She always felt as if something was missing, but no matter how hard she tried, she couldn't catch it. She felt like she was drowning in water, and no one was there to save her.

Sarah wondered if she would be free if she left Charles. Would she ever be able to live freely? After all, she has gone through so many things over the years, had broken up with boyfriends, and it all had somehow passed. This time, she felt that it was different. Would she be able to retreat herself?

She recalled her entire history with Charles. In the beginning, everything was so lovely. Compared with today, everything had changed. Charles was still Charles, but his heart toward her had broken. Despite knowing this, she was so silly that she couldn't stop loving him. Remembering how Charles had thrown her against the wall, Sarah felt her heart bleeding in sadness. It was still raining; she looked at the river with tears rolling over her face.

She wasn't one who cried easily, but she couldn't control herself at this time. Overwhelmed by sadness and drenched in tears, she tried to think of how she could forgive Charles if he came after her. Deep in her heart, she was desperately hoping that he would go after her, just like he had always done after every fight they had ever had. Almost every time, he had been the one who had approached her afterward, but this time, no matter how long she waited, he didn't show up.

Desperate to talk to someone, she called Carrie to ask her for advice, but Carrie didn't answer her phone. Sarah slowly put down the phone, feeling more isolated from the world than ever. Deep in her heart, she was still hoping that Charles would come after her and apologize, then she... maybe she would forgive him one more time because she still loved him.

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Lost in her thoughts, she heard someone coming behind her, walking towards her step by step.

Sarah hears the footsteps coming towards her. She was sure it was a man from the calm and steady rhythm. Was that Charles? Did Charles go and look for her?

She couldn't help turning around, but the face she saw in the rain was not that of Charles as she so desperately wanted, but instead, it belonged to Daniel. He walked towards her in a hurry with an umbrella. Relieved to have found her finally, he exclaimed. "Sarah, I finally found you!" Then he strode up and put the umbrella on top of her head to protect her from the drizzling rain.

Sarah looked at him, wondering why her heart was even emptier, and murmured, "Is it you?"

"Yep, what's wrong? Are you not happy to see me?" Daniel looked at Sarah with a doubtful expression, frowning his forehead as he was worried about her. "Why did you run out in such a hurry? Mr. Thomas came out of the operating room, and when he couldn't see you, he kept asking for you!"

"Was Mr. Thomas out?" When she heard his name mentioned, Sarah became worried, "Is he okay?"

"He's okay. The doctors took good care of him. Everything will be fine."

"Did Mr. Thomas want to see me?" Sarah continued to ask.

"Yes, I think you should go back and pay him a short visit," Daniel responded hurriedly.

But Sarah was still hesitant, with an obviously upset and pale face. The scene of what had happened in the hospital kept replaying in her mind, and she asked with a sad tone. “Why did you come for me instead of Charles?”

“Huh?” Daniel was confused at first, but when he saw her sad eyes, he immediately understood. He reached out and patted Sarah’s shoulder in comfort. “I was really worried about you, that’s why I followed you. As for Charles...” He stopped mid-sentence.

“What’s wrong with Charles?” Sarah asked.

“Sarah, are you sure your relationship is stable?” Daniel asked her in such a solemn manner, avoiding to answer her direct question, and looked deeply into her eyes, expressing great concern for her.

Sarah saw the different colors in his eyes. Why was he so concerned about her? The answer was obvious. Maybe Charles had been right all along, Daniel did have some more profound feelings for her.

Sarah lowered her head. No matter why Daniel had come to find her, whether it was for the sake of Mr. Thomas or for himself, whether she broke up with Charles or not, she was married and couldn’t be close to him. With determination, Sarah answered quickly. “It’s none of your business. No need for you to worry.”

Daniel grabbed her shoulder but immediately seemed to loosen it, and then suddenly seized her hands. “Sarah, you love him so much, but you’ll regret it. If you see what Charles did, you’ll regret having high hopes for him!”

“What did Charles do?” Sarah couldn’t help looking up when she asked that.

Daniel looked at her and did not know what to say. He finally heaved a sigh and said in a low voice, “You’d better go back and have a look!”

Sarah lowered her head, seemingly thinking of something, then passed Daniel silently.

“Sarah, where are you going?” Daniel inquired.

Sarah stopped, but she didn’t turn around. After thinking for a long time, she just said, “I will have a look!” She couldn’t blame Mr. Thomas for what had happened, and even though she had broken the relationship with Christina and with Charles,

she couldn't make Mr. Thomas sad, mainly when he was so sick. She had made up her mind to return to the hospital and look for herself.

She thought she would see Charles after arriving back at the hospital, but she found that Charles and Emma had left. Maybe they had gone back to work. Only Christina was in the room with Mrs. Thomas, she heard them talking about their family problems, including about Charles. Christina kept complaining to her husband.

Sarah stood at the door and listened for a while, feeling calm. After what she had gone through today, her heart was dead, and she had managed to calm herself down on the bridge. Hearing that Christina was accusing her, she was unwilling to walk in and defend herself, because if Mr. Thomas believed his wife, it was useless for her to explain anything.

She still felt confused and wondered why Christina insisted on further making troubles for her as if she was her enemy from a previous life. Charles had supported her in the past, but now he also had turned his back on her. The more she thought about the whole situation, the more upset she became. Sometimes, all she wanted was to give up. She was unwilling to strive for anything, feeling physically tired, and just wanted to let them go.

Sarah suddenly turned around and was about to leave when Daniel, who stood behind her and saw her decadent looks, suddenly said, "Sarah, I have noticed something these days. Why do you have to subject yourself to them? You are a free person. Given how tired you are, don't force yourself to continue."

Sarah answered quietly, "I know you mean good for me. The Thomas Family is so complicated, and they don't welcome me. Maybe I better leave early before it's too late, but it's easier said than done. It's not that I can leave even if I want to!"

"You can, but you can't let go of Charles!" Daniel said sharply, looking straight at her like a fire that had suddenly woken up inside him.

Sarah looked at him as if she suddenly recognized something. You can, but you can't let go of Charles! Was that the truth? She's been hesitating these days. Was it really all for Charles? Sarah admitted that she loved Charles, that she always had been deeply in love with Charles. But she knew that she was stubborn and wouldn't allow herself to be wronged easily. She had tolerated being mistreated by Christina and Emma because of Charles, so could she really not let go?

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Daniel saw that she was still hesitating and remained silent. He placed his hand on her shoulder and held her tightly as if he wanted to give her power, then he finally said. “Whatever you choose, I will always support you from behind. If you are tired or wronged, don’t forget me. I am here for you.”

When he said it, his voice became a little softer and hesitant, as if he was afraid to frighten her. After a short pause, Daniel added with caution, “I welcome you here anytime. I can be your final haven!”

His words sounded like a promise. In fact, it was a promise from a man to a woman. Sarah was shocked and looked blankly and with a trace of bewilderment up to Daniel as if she couldn’t understand him.

Daniel looked straight at her to give her strength. They looked at each other with apparent emotions. Sarah was in a panic. She didn’t know whether she should respond to Daniel’s words or not. She didn’t know whether she would fall into a ruined abbey or go to Grand Avenue if she returned to him.

But before she could think what to do, she heard a cold voice come from behind, “Mr. Frank, my wife and I aren’t divorced yet. Don’t you think you said that too early?”

Sarah was shocked. She couldn’t help turning around and saw Charles coming with a bag of food in his hand, Emma standing next to him. They were looking at her and Daniel silently. It was apparent they had come back from shopping. Sarah had assumed that Charles and Emma had gone back to work, not expecting that her conversation with Daniel would be heard by them.

Charles suddenly stepped up and pulled Sarah into his arms. Then, with one hand around her shoulder, he warned Daniel in a cold tone as if he was swearing on his possession, “Mr. Frank is an intelligent man. How can you do something like this? What’s more, she is married!”

Emma also jumped in and said, “Brother, they’re so funny. They always framed us up, but they are secretly the same!”

Sarah really wanted to laugh, but now she couldn't even smile. She didn't know what she could possibly say. Charles always believed what he saw. Any explanation was pointless if he misunderstood them, and Emma always spoke ill of her. They had just gone shopping together, giving Emma plenty of time to speak ill of her.

Daniel just looked at them for a while, and finally sneered at Charles, then said in a respectful tone, "Mr. Thomas, don't you think you are funny now? Indeed, Sarah is your wife, but have you ever given her happiness? On the contrary, you have been betraying her and hurting her! Why can't Sarah seek her own happiness while you're playing outside?"

"Seeking her own happiness?" Charles repeated these words and couldn't help laughing, "Can you be her happiness? Or are you the only one feeling this passionate? Does Sarah love you? If she loved you, why would she marry me rather than you?"

Daniel seemed stimulated and replied sharply. "Charles, you're just one step ahead of me, but if you can't give her happiness, she'll leave you as well!"

Charles burst into proud laughter, then responded to Daniel, "Ask her now, is she willing to leave me and go with you?" He lowered his head to look at Sarah again, "Will you leave me for him, Sarah?"

Sarah couldn't help laughing at Charles's confidence. Was Charles so sure that she loved him? He should have seen that clearly when she was his secretary at the beginning. He had flirted with her just because she liked him, and now they were married. He did worry about anything because he had confirmed that she loved him so much that he even felt confident to play with Emma at her expense, disregarding her feelings. He knew she loved him and couldn't leave him, which he took as a pass to do everything he wanted.

Sarah's heart suddenly turned cold as ice. Seeing those two men argue with each other, she just wanted to leave. She pulled Charles's hand away from her. Lowering her head, she smiled bitterly as she went without saying a word.

Daniel called after her, "Sarah!"

Charles also called her coldly, "Sarah!" He apparently wasn't happy to see her leaving him without hesitating.

Sarah stopped walking, and without looking back, she said coldly, “I only belong to myself. No one can control me. Charles, do you think you can control me just because I love you? You have really let me down!”

Sarah sounded so severe as if she was accusing Charles, who looked at her in shock. It had never occurred to him that Sarah thought of him as a bad person. Confused, he asked in a cold voice, “Sarah, is this what you think about me?”

Given that his tone was still fierce, Sarah felt that he didn’t consider her feeling at all. Staring at him, she felt so disappointed. Having nothing to add, she turned around and left.

Charles followed her and snatched her hand. “You want to leave? We should make things clear now! Haven’t you ever felt my love over the past half year? Why are you considering me the bad person who always bullies you?”

“Do you love me?” Sarah questioned him directly, staring at him.

Charles grunted at her, questioning him. “Well, my mom was right, after all. You are a very selfish person. Once someone treats you bad, you’ll remember it forever, but you never remember it when people are kind to you, so even though I treat with sincerely, you still can’t feel anything!”

Mom, mom, mom! Charles was bringing his mother into it again. Didn’t he know how angry she was right now? He always trusted others but doubted her, his wife, didn’t he? She used to believe that he was mature, but she had been so wrong! Charles was indeed a very childish man!

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Sarah didn’t want to argue with him anymore, especially after he mentioned his mother and took her words over her again without answering her questions. She was tired of listening to Charles’ excuses and didn’t expect him to be so persistent to question her. She really hated talking with him like this, especially in public, so she shook off his restraining hand and said firmly. “Charles, I’ve already answered you, so please just stop, ok?”

However, Charles didn’t let go of her. “Sarah, are you really that cold-blooded? I’ve done so many things for you, haven’t I? Don’t you realize that?”

Sarah didn't want to hear him and didn't want to continue arguing, so she shook his hands off more forcefully and strode away.

All she had wanted was to visit Mr. Thomas, but to her surprise, she had run into Christina and Charles, and the whole ordeal had started. Perhaps, it was inappropriate for her to visit Mr. Thomas under the current circumstances. Sarah couldn't understand why she and Charles always clashed with each other over the last few weeks, and no one was willing to compromise. She was tired of this situation, both physically and mentally.

She also felt very sleepy recently and found it hard to get up in the morning at times. She was taking care of Mr. Thomas every day, and to her annoyance, Christina and Emma used any chance they got to deliberately complicate everything for her, now even Charles was acting up against her to the point where he had physically hurt her. Sarah couldn't tolerate this anymore! She didn't want to argue with anyone anymore!

All she wanted was to be alone.

Charles shouted after her, "Sarah, Sarah!"

Sarah ignored him and started to walk even faster, but Charles quickly caught up with her and dragged her back by her hand.

Sarah hadn't expected him to use force on her and immediately started to struggle to free herself from him.

"Charles, let me go, what are you doing?" She yelled.

Charles didn't stop, but rather dragged her into an empty staircase. Daniel, who had been watching them anxiously, shouted, "Charles, what are you doing?"

Emma, who was standing behind them and watching everything with great satisfaction, followed them with the hopes of watching them continue to fight.

Once at the empty staircase, Charles let Sarah go. His powerful grip made her hand hurt, which enforced Sara's idea that he didn't care about her anymore since this was the second time he had hurt her today. Aggravated, she shouted at him, "Charles, what do you want to do?"

Noticing that Daniel and Emma were following them, Charles closed the door to be alone with Sarah. “Today, we must make things clear! What are you taking me for? Have you ever loved me?”

Sarah thought his words ridiculous, shouldn't she ask him this? She hadn't questioned him about what he was doing with Emma, and she had done anything wrong, why was he questioning her? Frustrated, she sneered, “Charles, do you think you are in a position to ask me this?”

“Why am I not in a position to ask you this question? Don't forget, you are my wife!” Charles raged, glaring at her as if his eyes were going to spout fire.

Sarah stared back at him, ironically. “Charles, are you really treating me as your wife? You question me again and again whether I love you, but have you reflected on whether you love me? If yes, why are you always ignoring my feelings and taking Emma's side?”

“What's wrong with Emma and me? She is my sister, we are innocent of each other. I've told you this so many times, why don't you believe me? Don't be such a jealous woman, ok?”

“Innocent?” Sarah burst into laughter before she continued. “If you two are innocent, then why hug each other? Why are you two so intimate at work? Why did you hurt me again and again just for her? Which one do you love? If you love her, then please let me go! I'm young, I can have my own life, I don't want to be entangled between you two!”

Charles became angrier at her accusations and said with a cold voice, “Sarah, do you really want to divorce? You love Daniel so much that you want to get rid of me and marry him already?”

Sarah wanted to laugh at him, but she knew it was meaningless to continue arguing. Judging him by the way he was talking now, Christina had influenced him this morning. It was impossible to explain anything right now.

Disappointed, she thought he really didn't love her, or if he did, he was a very selfish person who didn't trust her or care about her feelings. Having come to that conclusion, she sneered, “Yes, Charles, I can't stand your family anymore, I want a divorce! Dare you to divorce me now? If you're that angry, the best thing is to get rid of each other!”

“Sarah!” Charles shouted at her.

Sarah took the ring from her finger and said coldly. “This is yours, you can have it back now. We’ll get a divorce, I won’t beg you!”

“Sarah, are you crazy?” Seeing she was going to throw the ring away, Charles held her hand to stop her, resulting in a power struggle between them.

Sarah was struggling to try to throw the ring, and Charles was trying to stop her. She yelled out loudly, “Charles, stop, let go of me! Stop! Let me go!”

Daniel heard her voice from the other side of the door and started to hammer against the door with his fists. “Sarah, Sarah, are you ok? Charles, what are you doing to Sarah? Open the door!”

Meanwhile, Emma couldn’t help laughing when she heard their quarrel. She couldn’t be happier. If Sarah and Charles were fighting so hard, they would for sure split up and not forgive each other, which was good for her!

Suddenly, they heard Sarah groan out in pain as if she was hit by something. In excruciating pain, she said, “My belly...hurts... My belly is hurting...”

Charles was stunned and didn’t know what was happening. Thinking that she was pretending to make him stop, he called out her name coldly. “Sarah!”



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Sarah didn’t respond but was curling up in pain, holding tightly onto her lower abdomen. Charles stepped over to her and asked, this time with a concerned voice. “Sarah, what’s wrong? Can you stand up?”

But Sarah still didn’t respond, just kept agonizing on the floor. Starting to become worried, he squatted down to help her, “Sarah, what’s wrong with you? What happened?”

Sarah groaned again, her hands on her stomach, biting her lips. “My belly...is hurting!”

Daniel had managed to open the door, both angry and anxious at the same time. He rushed in to help Sarah and was shocked to see her curling up in pain. Trying to help her get up, he asked, “Sarah, what’s wrong?”

Sarah was in too much pain to answer, she just shook her head and frowned. Seeing her in pain, Daniel stopped for a second to think, then suddenly lifted her up and ran into an examination room, carrying her in his arms.

Charles, not knowing what was happening, shouted angrily, “Daniel, stop, what are you doing?”

But Daniel didn’t respond, he just hurried to get to the examination table where he put Sarah down and started to check her carefully. Suddenly, his eyes widened as if he had discovered something surprising, and quickly called out for help to another doctor and some nurses who were nearby.

Charles was still angry, but he was also worried about Sarah. He stopped Daniel and asked. “Daniel, what are you doing? Sarah is my wife, what are you doing with her inside the examination room?!”

Daniel was raging in anger and shouted at Charles. “Stop! Or you will lose your baby!”

That one sentence struck Charles like lightning from a clear sky. He was at a complete loss of words, staring at Daniel for a while with his mouth open, then asked, “What did you just say? ...Baby? Baby... is Sarah pregnant?”

Daniel snorted out of contempt, without answering the question, then rushed back into the room with a gynecologist and a few nurses, closing the door behind them to check on Sarah’s condition. Charles and Emma, both in shock about what they had just heard, were left standing outside.

Charles stared at the door for a long time, internally processing the information he had just received. “Am I going to be a father – really?” He didn’t know how he was feeling... angry, anxious, or excited?

They had just been fighting to a point where Sarah had asked him for a divorce... but now she was pregnant... should he be happy or angry now? Finally, after some moments that seemed like they were lasting forever, his natural reaction won over his anger, and he started to feel happy.

After all, having a baby with Sarah was something he had wanted for a long time how he had wished for Sarah to become pregnant and to have his child. It didn't matter if it was going to be a girl or a boy, all he wanted was to have a baby with her.

Now that Sarah was pregnant and his baby was growing inside her, he suddenly didn't know how to express his feelings. Out of excitement, he burst out into laughter.

"I will have a baby? Am I going to be a father? I'm going to be a father!" He laughed out loud. The more he thought about it, the more excited he became. Suddenly, he grabbed Emma by her shoulders and said excitedly, "Emma, did you hear that? I'm going to be a father! You're going to be an aunt, and we're going to have a new family member!"

Charles kept laughing, completely ignoring Emma's reaction. Either he didn't know Emma's real intentions or didn't notice her strange response, but he just kept laughing and congratulating her.

In the meantime, Emma's face became dry as a desert. Looking at Charles's excited face in front of her, she felt like someone had stabbed her with a knife straight through her heart. Was he really so happy to know that Sarah was pregnant? He had even forgotten how angry he was and how they had been fighting just a few minutes. He couldn't wait to get back to Sarah and share his excitement with her.

Emma was angry and resentful. All the hard work which she and Christina had done to separate them had just vanished into thin air the moment Sarah became pregnant. Charles was so excited that he had forgotten entirely about his anger and what Sarah had done and acted as if he had already forgiven her for everything.

Emma hated that Charles still loved Sarah so much, despite everything she had done to separate them. Knowing that Sarah was pregnant made him happier than if he had won the lottery, and he had no issues showing his love for Sarah off in front of her, completely disregarding her feelings.

Charles kept happily chatting for a while before he noticed Emma's fake smile. Confused yet excited, he asked her, "Emma, aren't you happy? You're going to be an aunt. You used to tell me you love children. Now you're going to have a child in the family. Aren't you happy? Ha-ha-ha-ha!" He couldn't contain his excitement and laughed again.

Emma looked at him with a blank expression. She felt hurt and bitter, but she couldn't show her real feelings and wicked thoughts in front of Charles, could she? Having no other choice, she just nodded slightly and laughed with him. "Yep, I am happy... happy... My brother is happy... so I am also happy..." Listening to her, nobody knew how wounded her heart was underneath her apparent happy façade.

After getting the answer from Emma he wanted to hear, Charles felt that everyone should feel happy like he was, that the world should celebrate with him. He had never been so glad before.

Finally, Daniel came out of the examination room, and seeing how happy Charles was, he said with an apprehensive tone. "You're so happy even before you know how Sarah is doing?"

As if snapping out of his happy trance, Charles grabbed Daniel's hand and asked with worry. "What are you talking about? How is Sarah doing?"

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Charles realized that in his happiness about becoming a father, he had forgotten that Sarah was still in the examination room and started blaming himself.

"Damn it, I am so happy to know that we're going to be a parent that I forgot about her. How could I push Sarah away? Fuck!" He clenched his fist in frustration.

Seeing Charles's guilt, Daniel felt angry and resentful toward him. Why did Sarah love and marry this man? He grunted and was about to go back into the examination room.

But Charles grabbed his hand and asked in a worried tone. "Doctor Frank, how is Sarah now? Is she all right? Keep her safe, no matter what the cost. I'll do everything as long as she and the baby are all right."

Daniel looked at him and smirked. Now he had finally called him Doctor Frank rather than calling him by his first name. Reluctant, he answered. "Well, now you feel regret? Why couldn't you be nice to her before? Sarah married you, but you have made her so miserable!"

Although Charles was being called out by Daniel, he really realized that he was in the wrong and didn't retaliate. He just simply asked, "How is Sarah doing? I'll do whatever she asks me in the future as long as she is okay. Even if occasionally she makes mistakes, I'll let her have her way. All I want is for her and the baby to be okay!"

"Even if she occasionally makes mistakes? When did Sarah make a mistake? It is you who is always wrong! Why do you think Sarah made a mistake?" Daniel couldn't help shouting at Charles, suppressing his jealous feelings.

Sarah may be pregnant with Charles's child, but he still wanted to help Sarah against Charles. Sarah had suffered so much because of him, and Charles still insisted that she was in the wrong.

Emma couldn't tolerate seeing Daniel reproaching Charles, so she walked up to him and asked. "Doctor Frank, is Sarah feeling better? Don't you need to go in and check on her?"

Daniel looked at Emma and noticed her hostility. Forcing a smirk, he walked back into the room. The most important thing right now was Sarah's safety.

Charles lowered his head and stood outside the examination room, the closed-door separating him from the person he loved most. After Daniel had scolded him, he was left with mixed feelings. He realized that Daniel was right, that it was all his fault. He had not been kind enough to Sarah, always confronting her.

Now she was pregnant and hurt, how bad was she hurt? Would the pregnancy be difficult for her? If anything happened to her and their child because of the way he had pushed her at the staircase just now, he would blame himself forever.

Thinking about his actions, Charles slowly went to sit down on a bench in the waiting area. Covering his face in his hands, he sat there and waited.

Emma came up to him and called out quietly, "Brother... "

Charles had lost his feeling of excitement, only worries were left. With a sharp voice, he said. "I hope Sarah and the baby are safe, otherwise... I don't know how I could live with myself.!"

"Brother..." Emma was heartbroken to see him so sad but didn't know what to say to comfort him since she hated that pregnant woman with passion. The man she

loved was worried sick over another woman, just the thought of it was so painful. Physically and emotionally, Emma didn't know what to do with herself.

A long time passed before the doctors came out of the room. The moment the door opened, Charles jumped up and walked toward them. "Doctor Frank, how is my wife?"

Though he was angry, Daniel was relieved for Sarah to see Charles so worried about her. Knowing that Sarah needed kindness around her, his anger towards Charles came down, and he said calmly. "She is okay for now, but her pregnancy is still very delicate. She needs to be admitted to the hospital for some time to stabilize her condition."

Charles was relieved to hear that Sarah was doing better but was still worried about her. He couldn't help but ask, "How about the baby?"

"We are unsure yet. After all, she's only in her second month of the pregnancy, miscarriage is still very easy at this stage, and you just pushed her!" Daniel stared at Charles and continued. "If I hadn't been there just now to save her, she may have lost her child."

Charles shook his head, feeling guilty. He shouldn't have pushed Sarah, how could he hurt her?

"With our specialist, she is well taken care of, and hopefully, nothing bad will happen. Sarah is otherwise healthy, but you can't make her upset again, she needs to stay in a good mood to preserve her pregnancy. Being sad also could affect the proper development of the child." Daniel continued.

Charles nodded, "I see."

"You can go and see her now!" Daniel finally added.

Charles pushed through the door and slowly walked into the room. Two nurses were still in the room, cleaning up everything and reorganizing the instruments the doctors had used, but Charles went straight to Sarah's bedside and looked at her, disregarding everyone around him.

Sarah was awake but looked pale and weak. He grabbed her hand and asked carefully. "Sarah, are you all right? How are you feeling now? Is the pregnancy affecting you?"

Sarah opened her eyes for a moment to look at him but didn't know what to say. He had been so fierce to her just now, but now he looked guilty. His behaviors towards her were so unstable that she couldn't bear them. Sarah closed her eyes and ignored him.

But Charles, holding her hand, suddenly leaned close to her mouth and kissed her, looking at her affectionately, "I am sorry, are you still mad at me? Sarah, I am sorry, it's all my fault. I shouldn't have done that to you. I'm really sorry."

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When she heard his sincere apology, her heart became softer again. She loved him so much that even if he hurt her, she always forgave him as soon as he starts to be nice to her again. She can't bear the pain of seeing him into pain, too. Although her heart was broken, she couldn't resist his charm. She was hopelessly in love with him. She can't deny the fact that this man, too, was his lawfully wedded husband.

Charles kept apologizing, telling her that he was sorry repeatedly. "I won't ever make you sad again. I'll take good care of you and our baby in the future. I will do everything as long as you are safe. Sarah, can you forgive me? I really am so sorry and feel very guilty. I'm really sorry. I know I am a jerk and always hurt you, but I mean what I've said," he continued.

Sarah still kept her eyes closed, but she couldn't hold her tears back any longer. It had been such a long time since he had been gently toward her, and his apologies seemed so sincere. But after the way he had hurt her just now, how could she treat him like before as if nothing had happened?

The more Sarah thought about it, the bitter she felt. Without saying a word, she just kept crying, which frightened Charles. Charles hugged her tightly and tried to comfort her. "Sarah, don't cry, don't be sad. It's all my fault. I made you sad again. Don't cry my love, my heart hurts to see you like this. I don't want to see you wronged!"

Sarah sobbed, "If you don't want me to be wronged. Why did you make me so sad?"

Charles hugged her tightly. "Sorry, it won't happen again. I swear, I'll treat you well in the future, it won't happen again!"

Sarah was angry and suddenly started hitting and scolding him while crying, “Charles, you are such a bad person. You keep hurting me and making me sad. I suffered so much after I married you. You always make me sad. I hate you, hate you!” She kept hitting him, venting her anger.

Charles just hugged her tightly and said, “You can do everything to me as long as it makes you feel better. You can hit me as you like. I don’t want anything except to see you happy again!”

Hearing this, Sarah started crying harder, but she stopped hitting him. She didn’t know what to say. She loved this man just as much as hated him. How could she hate him? How could she hurt him? She stopped hitting him and just cried. Charles embraced her tightly as if to assure her that he never would let her go.

Daniel was watching them through the window until he finally lowered his head and silently walked away. If Sarah was happy, he would be satisfied even though she had not chosen him to spend her life with.

Emma, on the other hand, who had also been watching them embracing each other, was really upset and angry with her fists clenched. Jealousy had burned her senses! Why? Why did Charles love Sarah so much? Why did Charles choose Sarah? Why had Sarah taken Charles’s love from her? Why? She couldn’t accept it!

After watching them silently for a moment, Emma finally clenched her fists even harder and left. Resentful and with a burning desire for revenge, she promised herself that she wouldn’t let them go, especially Sarah’s child!

Emma was so angry that she wanted to kill someone! That woman had to become pregnant just at the right time, undermining everything she and Christina had planned for so long. All of their efforts were gone, thrown out the window. How could she accept that? What was worse was that Charles went straight back to Sarah’s side!

Why? Why did Charles still love Sarah so much despite everything that Sarah had done just to take him away from her? Did Sarah really deserve to walk away with her happily ever after? She was a vixen. Why should God be kind to her and protect her again and again and make Charles favor her?

Emma hated Sarah. She really hated Sarah. How could she get pregnant right now at this time and ruin their plans? God really must be on her side! Emma couldn’t

stand it. Maybe it was not even Charles's baby. Perhaps it was the result of Sarah's adulterous life!

Thinking this was the only thing that could make Emma feel better. She didn't realize how vicious she had become. She was no longer that innocent girl she used to be. Jealousy made her ferocious and had transformed her into a completely different person!

She walked to her father's room and wanted to complain to her mother and vent her feelings, but when she saw that her dad was awake with Christina sitting beside him and talking to him, she dared not disturb them. They seemed to be in a good mood, and Emma was afraid that her anger would trigger her father's senses, and he would realize that something was wrong.

Not knowing what to do, Emma kicked the chair in the hallway, impaling it against the wall, afraid to go inside.

Christina was inside and had seen Emma passing by but wondered why she wasn't coming in? And when she saw Emma lowering her head in disappointment as if she had something in her mind, Christina excused herself from her husband and went out to Emma.

Emma was sitting on the chair with her head hanging down. She appeared very sad. Christina approached her and asked, "Emma, what's wrong with you? Why didn't you come inside after coming back?"

Emma looked up, surprised to see her mom. She hadn't expected Christina to come out for her. Stunned, she looked up to her like she was drowning but had finally found a branch to hold onto in the attempt to save herself. Emma cried out in relief to her mother. "Mom, I'm so sad. What should I do? I feel so bad!"

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Christina was shocked by Emma's abnormal behavior. She first glanced at her husband's room top to ensure that he wouldn't see them, then closed the door behind her, and took Emma by her hand, and pulled her to a corner for privacy. "What's wrong with you, Emma?"

“Mom, I just went out to buy food with my brother, using the chance to strengthen my bond with him, but everything is destroyed by Sarah now. All he can see now is Sarah, he doesn’t have eyes for me at all!”

Christina saw Emma’s tears bursting through her eyelids with great pain. She grabbed her arms and asked, “Emma, what’s wrong? What happened to the good girl crying like this? Tell me, Sarah, that vixen, what did she do now to make you so angry and cry? Tell me, I’ll help you to fight back!”

Emma raised her head angrily and said in between sobs. “No, she didn’t do anything to me, it’s better than that. Sarah, she... she’s pregnant. Mom, we have no merit!”

Mrs. Thomas stared at Emma for a long time with a sophisticated and shocked look. Finally, after a long time, she asked, stunned. “What? Say that again!”

“Sarah’s pregnant!” Emma cried out.

Christina finally seemed to understand and repeated, “Sarah’s pregnant?Sarah, she’s pregnant!”

“Yeah, Mom, now that she’s pregnant, all our plans are ruined. She ruined everything. Damn it! She’s a demon! Now we can’t make her break up with Charles after all she did. I really don’t know what she did to completely capture Charles’s mind!”

Contrary to Emma’s raging, Christina remained very calm, as if she was thinking about something. After a while, she asked, “What did Charles do?”

“Charles has always wanted a baby, so of course, he is ecstatic. Just now, in the room, he was overwhelmed by happiness. He only can see her now; he has no eyes for anything else. He didn’t even see me as he was holding Sarah and promising her always to protect her, love her, and respect her forever. I was so sad hearing all that! I’m so angry! ...Mom, do we still have a chance? Charles loves her. Is there anything we can do to make them break up in the future?”

“Shut up!” Christina suddenly sneered at Emma as if she was too upset to bear Emma’s constant complaining.

Emma stared in surprise at her mother, she felt even more wrong now that she got scorned by her too. Even her mother, the one who had always loved her, would scorn her now of all times. What did she do that was so wrong?

Christina continued in a cold voice, “Just when the war has begun, you admit being the loser at the first unexpected thing that happened, how can you succeed like that?”

Emma cried out, “Mom, she’s pregnant, and Charles promised her to stay with her. What else can we do?”

Christina’s face had become cold as ice. She seemed to be meditating, thinking, trying to come up with a plan. Suddenly she said in a cold voice, “Hum, I can make her abort if she’s pregnant. Since Charles seems to love this child so much, I can’t let them have it!”

Emma was shocked by Christina’s harsh words and felt a little chilly, but asked timidly, “Mom, what are you going to do?”

Christina turned around and looked at Emma with a cold smile. “Isn’t it easy now? We can make her abort or spread rumors that the child isn’t Charles’s child. Whichever it is, Charles will stay away from that vixen, especially if we use the second method. This is wonderful. Ha-ha-ha!”

Emma was horrified by the way Christina was laughing. But on second thought, she considered it as really a good idea, so she nodded and said, “Of course, you are so smart. Without you, I wouldn’t know how to deal with Sarah! But...” Emma looked timidly at her mother, “But the baby belongs to our family. If we do this... wouldn’t it be a little cruel?”

“Well, is it cruel? Do you think so? How can you succeed in the future if you think like this? I don’t think it’s harsh enough!” Christina had a fierce light in her eyes, she seemed to be in a perfect mood. Emma was frightened of her and dared not to contradict her.

Perhaps Christina herself was frightened by Emma, so she smiled gently, and held her shoulders, she said. “Emma, you know Sarah is a vicious vixen. We should hit her where it hurts the most, it’s a fight to death situation if you don’t win, you die. Sarah wouldn’t let us go so easily, given her tactics and evil thoughts. So, do you choose to be a loser or hit her before she fights back?”

Emma still looked at her mother with a mixture of amazement and horror, and finally nodded, “I will be on your side!”

Christina loosened her grip and laughed cruelly, “Well, from tomorrow on, we can’t deal with her the way we used to. We must use fiercer ways to deal with her until she can’t handle it. I want to see what she can do against us, Hum!”

The news that Sarah was pregnant had spread around among Charles’s relatives. Everyone was happy for them, especially Mr. Thomas was so excited to be a grandfather that he became better. Whenever he met his friends, he would tell them proudly that his daughter-in-law was pregnant and that he would soon have a grandchild.”

Charles’s aunt Crystal also called to congratulate and said that she had an extra spare room should they need help to babysit, promising only the best for the education of their child.

Charles and Sarah were thrilled with this new chapter in their life. After a long period of misunderstandings and conflict, they finally were happy again. For Sarah, it was the first time that she felt accepted in Charles’s family, with everyone extending their best wishes to her, except for Emma and Christina, who still refused to acknowledge her as part of their family.

Feeling cared for and acknowledged by the rest of the family, including aunts and uncles, Sarah was happy to feel the warmth of family again finally.

